

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing contaminants in dredged material comprising:

(a) removing bulk particles from the dredged material,

(b) adding liquid to the dredged material thereby forming a slurry, [[and]]

(c) separating liquid from the dredged material thereby obtaining filtrate and a solid portion, and

(d) directly mixing the solid portion of step (c) with structural additives to provide a beneficial use product,

wherein contaminants are removed via at least one oxidation process of admixing at least one oxidizing agent with the slurry of dredged material in step (b); and

wherein the solid portion includes a solid component and a liquid component.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the at least one oxidation process comprises admixing at least one oxidizing agent with the solid portion.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 comprising admixing at least one flocculating agent with the slurry of dredged material in step (b).

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein the at least one oxidizing agent is selected from the group consisting of oxygen, hydrogen peroxide, ozone, chlorine, chlorine dioxide, sodium hypochlorate, calcium hypochlorate, sodium chlorate, sodium chlorite, bleach, potassium permanganate and mixtures thereof.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 3 wherein the at least one oxidizing agent is selected from the group consisting of oxygen, hydrogen peroxide, ozone, chlorine, chlorine dioxide, sodium hypochlorate, calcium hypochlorate, sodium chlorate, sodium chlorite, bleach, potassium permanganate and mixtures thereof

8. (Original) A method according to claim 4 wherein the at least one oxidizing agent is selected from the group consisting of oxygen, hydrogen peroxide, ozone, chlorine, chlorine dioxide, sodium hypochlorate, calcium hypochlorate, sodium chlorate, sodium chlorite, bleach, potassium permanganate and mixtures thereof.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 3 where the flocculating agent is a polyelectrolyte.

10. (Cancelled)